

Application No. 09/913,448

Filed: 8/14/01

Group Art Unit: 1774

Please rewrite the indicated claims to read as follows:

- B1
4. A process according to claim 11, wherein the poly(carboxylic) acid and poly(carboxylic) acid anhydride are selected from the group consisting of saturated and unsaturated acyclic poly(carboxylic) acids, saturated and unsaturated cyclic poly(carboxylic) acids, aromatic poly(carboxylic) acids, hydroxy poly(carboxylic) acids, citric acid, poly(acrylic) acid, poly(methacrylic) acid, 1,2,3,4-butanetetracarboxylic acid, maleic acid, citraconic acid, itaconic acid, 1,2,3-propane-tricarboxylic acid, aconitic acid, all-cis-1,2,3,4-cyclopentanetetracarboxylic acid, mellitic acid, oxydisuccinic acid, and thiodisuccinic acid.
5. A process according to claim 11, wherein the catalyst is selected from the group consisting of dihydrogen phosphates, hydrogen phosphates, phosphates, hypophosphites, alkali metal phosphites, alkali metal salts of polyphosphoric acids, carbonates, bicarbonates, acetates, borates, alkali metal hydroxides, aliphatic amines and ammonia, preferably selected from sodium hydrogen phosphate, sodium dihydrogen phosphate and sodium hypophosphite.
6. A process according to claim 11, wherein the cyclodextrin is selected from the group consisting of  $\alpha$ -cyclodextrin,  $\beta$ -

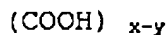
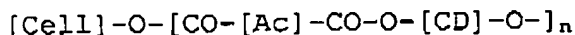
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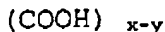
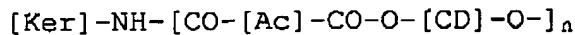
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cyclodextrin and  $\gamma$ -cyclodextrin and wherein the cyclodextrin derivatives are selected from hydroxypropyl, methyl or acetyl derivatives of  $\alpha$ -cyclodextrin,  $\beta$ -cyclodextrin and  $\gamma$ -cyclodextrin and inclusion complexes formed from said cyclodextrins or said cyclodextrin derivatives.

7. A fiber having (a) hydroxide or (b) amine or (c) both hydroxide and amine functional groups, the fiber being bonded, via an ester or amide bond, to at least one molecule to form a structure comprising the repetition of a unit with general formula:



or



where  $2 \leq y < x-2$ ;  $x \geq 3$  and

$n$  is 1 or more, and in which:

[Cell] represents the macromolecular chain of a natural or artificial cellulose fiber;

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[Ker] represents the macromolecular chain of a natural or artificial protein fiber;

[COOH]  $x-y$

|

[Ac]

represents the molecular chain of a ply(carboxylic)

acid

[COOH]  $x-y$

|

[Ac]

where at least two carboxylic acid functions (COOH)  $y$  have undergone esterification or esterification and amidation respectively and which carries at least one carboxylic acid function (COOH)  $x-y$  that has not undergone an esterification or amidation reaction; and

[CD] represents the molecular structure of  $\alpha$ -cyclodextrin,  $\beta$ -cyclodextrin or  $\gamma$ -cyclodextrin derivative.

Please cancel claims 1-3.

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Please add the following new claims:

- B2
11. A process for treating a fiber consisting of:
- a. applying to said fiber a solid mixture to form a treated fiber, said solid mixture comprising
    - 1. one or more materials from the group consisting of cyclodextrins, cyclodextrin derivatives, inclusion complexes of cyclodextrins, and inclusion complexes of cyclodextrin derivatives, and
    - 2. one or more materials selected from the group consisting of poly(carboxylic) acids and poly(carboxylic) acid anhydrides;
  - b. heating said treated fiber to a temperature between 150-220C.;
  - c. washing said treated fiber with water; and
  - d. drying said treated fiber.
12. The process of claim 11 wherein said fiber has been formed into a material selected from the group consisting of yarn, woven textile material, knitted textile material, non-woven textile material, paper, leather and wood fiber-based material.
13. The process of claim 11 wherein said solid mixture further comprises a catalyst.

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14. The process of claim 11 wherein

a. said fiber is impregnated with an aqueous solution of said mixture, and

b. said impregnated fiber is dried.

15. The process of claim 14 wherein said mixture further comprises a catalyst.

16. The process of claim 11 wherein said treated fiber is dried at a temperature of 40-150C before heating.

17. The process of claim 16 wherein said treated material is dried at a temperature between 90C and 110C.

18. The fiber of claim 7, wherein [CD] is selected from the group consisting of

(a) a hydroxypropyl, methyl or acetyl derivative of  $\alpha$ -cyclodextrin,

(b) a hydroxypropyl, methyl or acetyl derivative of  $\beta$ -cyclodextrin,

(c) a hydroxypropyl, methyl or acetyl derivative of  $\gamma$ -cyclodextrin,

(d) an inclusion complex of said cyclodextrins and

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